

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : CHRIS P. ROUNTOS  
 Richard M. PASSARO  
 Examiner:  
 Serial No. : (Attorney's Docket No. 11783-1) Art Group:  
 Filed : (Herewith)  
 For : MAGNETICALLY ACTUATED CONTROL DEVICE

#2  
 Prior Art  
 R. Ross  
 11-597

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: April 3, 1997

 Gregory S. Rosenblatt  
 Name of Person Mailing Paper

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Person Mailing Paper
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, enclosed are an Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 and one copy of each reference. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. The accompanying Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. The accompanying Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

- [ ] a. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) (1); and no fee is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).
- [ ] b. No item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) (2); and no fee is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).
- [ ] c. Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1770 in the amount of \$230.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Two additional copies of this transmittal are enclosed.
- [ ] 3. The accompanying Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1770 in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) (1). Two additional copies of this transmittal are enclosed.
- [ ] a. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) (1).
- [ ] b. No item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) (2).

Reg. No.: 32,489

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Date: April 3, 1997

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Attorney or Agent

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Patent

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                         RICHARD M. PASSARO      Examiner:

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For            :      MAGNETICALLY ACTUATED CONTROL DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In keeping with the duty and candor and good faith owed to the Patent and Trademark Office, applicant wishes to make of record the items on attached PTO Form 1449 which were considered in the preparation of the subject application. Copies of the items are provided in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98.

U.S. Patent No. 3,331,972 entitled "Magnetic Control Stick System" by Möller, issued July 18, 1967.

U.S. Patent No. 4,325,050 entitled "Control Stick Assembly" by Suszynski, issued April 13, 1982.

U.S. Patent No. 4,490,710 entitled "Control Stick Assembly" by Kopsho, Jr. et al. issued December 25, 1984.

U.S. Patent No. 4,459,578 entitled "Finger Control Joystick Utilizing Hall Effect" by Sava et al. issued July 10, 1984.

U.S. Patent No. 4,489,303 entitled "Contactless Switch and Joystick Controller Using Hall Elements" by Martin, issued December 18, 1984.

U.S. Patent No. 4,520,242 entitled "Joystick" by Kopsho, Jr. issued May 28, 1985.

U.S. Patent No. 4,661,773 entitled "Method of and Apparatus for Magnetically Detecting the Three-Dimensional Rotational Position and Movement of an Object" by Kawakita et al. issued April 28, 1987.

U.S. Patent No. 4,825,157 entitled "Hall-Effect Controller" by Mikan, issued April 25, 1989.

U.S. Patent No. 4,853,630 entitled "Magnetic Position Sensor Having Spaced Toroidal Magnets in a State of Equilibrium" by Houston, issued August 1, 1989.

U.S. Patent No. 5,160,918 entitled "Joystick Controller Employing Hall-Effect Sensors" by Saposnik et al. issued November 3, 1992.

U.S. Patent No. 5,399,967 entitled "Motion Transducer" by Carscadden, issued March 21, 1995.

U.S. Patent No. 5,421,694 entitled "Non-Contacting Joystick" by Baker et al. issued June 6, 1995.

The following foreign patents were also considered during the preparation of the patent application.

Germany - DE 195 03 615 A1, published August 17, 1995.

Japan - 58-66381, published April 20, 1983.

European Patent Application - 0 501 906 A1, published 1992, entitled "Contactless Joystick" by Soelberg.

The following Data Sheet was also considered during the preparation of the application:


Allegro MicroSystems, Inc. Preliminary Data Sheet entitled "Ratiometric, Linear Hall-Effect Sensors for High-Temperature Operation" (1996).

The undersigned represents that the closest art of which he is presently aware has been cited herein and understands that this statement shall not be construed as a representation that no better art exists or that a thorough patentability search has been made.

Respectfully submitted,  
CHRIS P. ROUNTOS ET AL.

Date: April 3, 1997

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